

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-18, and 20-67 are pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the remarks contained herein.

I. INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the interview conducted on October 16, 2008. During the interview, the Examiner and Applicants' attorney discussed the outstanding rejection of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and 35 U.S.C. § 102 with respect to independent Claim 1. The substance of that discussion is reflected in the remarks below.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-6, 8-18, and 20-67 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regards to independent Claim 1, the Examiner alleges that the original specification does not include descriptive evidence in support of the limitation "without executing a query." See also Claims 13 ("without receiving a query"); Claim 25 ("without executing a query"); Claim 30 ("without receiving a query"); Claim 41 ("without executing a query"); Claim 50 ("without receiving a query"); Claim 56 ("without executing a query"); and Claim 62 ("without receiving a query"). Applicants have elected to cancel the limitation "receiving without executing a query" thereby rendering the § 112 rejection against independent Claim 1 moot. See also Claims 13, 25, 30, 41, 50, 56, and 62. Applicants make the amendment to advance prosecution and in no way as an acquiescence to the rejection. As

such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 112, first paragraph rejections against Claims 1-6, 8-18, and 20-67.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 AND 103

Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 11, 13-16, 20, 23, 25, 30-33, 36, 39, 41-43, 45, 50-52, 56, and 62-64 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,279,067 to Callway et al. Claims 4, 9, 10, 17, 21, 22, 27-29, 34, 37, 38, 44, and 61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Callway et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

A. Callway fails to teach or suggest “transmitting a request to transmit data on a communications link.”

Independent Claim 1 recites a method that includes:

transmitting a request to transmit data on a communications link to a first embedded device of a plurality of embedded devices from a second embedded device of the plurality of embedded devices.

Emphasis Added; see also Claim 13 (“transmitting a request to transmit data to the first embedded device via an activation of the link request”); Claim 25 (“transmitting a link request signal for requesting permission to transmit data on a communications link”); Claim 30 (“communications means...for transmitting a request to transmit data”); Claim 41 (“transmitting a request to transmit data on a communications link”); Claim 50 (“each of the plurality of embedded devices operable to request permission to transmit data on the communications link by transmitting a request to transmit data”); Claim 56 (“transmitting a link request signal requesting permission to transmit data on a communications link”); and Claim 62 (“wherein each of the other plurality of embedded processor means is operable to transmit a request to transmit data”). At a minimum, the Callway reference fails to disclose or suggest these features.

In the rejection, the Examiner asserts that the video graphics system, as depicted in the Callway reference, operates in a manner that discloses the method as recited in independent Claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree. As previously noted in the response filed May 30, 2008, the Callway reference discloses detecting an interrupt request in a video graphics system “by reading a shared interrupt request flag stored in a device.” (Column 2, Lines 35-47). Callway further notes:

“[i]n order to determine if an interrupt request is pending by any one of the VIP slave devices, the **VIP host 10 only needs to read the shared IRQ flag of one of the slave devices**. This is because when any VIP slave device asserts an interrupt request, all of the VIP slave devices will set their shared IRQ flag. Thus, **the VIP host 10 can continuously poll a single one of the VIP slave devices to determine when an interrupt request is pending by any one of the VIP slave devices**.

Emphasis Added; (Column 4, Lines 9-16). In other words, the VIP host device 10 of Callway (i.e., the controlling device as asserted by the Examiner) must actively poll or query one of the VIP slave devices (i.e., no communication indicative of an interrupt request is transmitted to the VIP host device 10 from the any of the VIP slave devices).

In contrast, the method of independent Claim 1 calls for a method that includes “transmitting a request to transmit data on a communications link.” See also Claims 13, 25, 30, 41, 50, 56, and 62. As such, in independent Claim 1, an embedded device that desires to transmit data over a communications link transmits a request itself rather than being polled or queried to determine the existence of the data transmission request. Therefore Applicants respectfully submit that the Callway reference neither teaches nor even contemplates “transmitting a request to transmit data on a communications link to a first embedded device of a plurality of embedded devices from a second embedded device of the plurality of embedded devices” as claimed by independent Claim 1. See also Claims 13, 25, 30, 41,

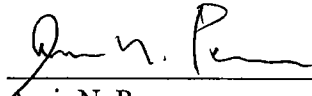
50, 56, and 62. For at least the reasons cited, Applicants respectfully submit that the Callway reference fails to anticipate independent Claims 1, 13, 25, 30, 41, 50, 56, and 62.

IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (312) 321-4200.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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